Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 15 Mar 2024 until 23:59 on Saturday 16 Mar 2024

Forecast Issued on Thursday 14 Mar 2024 at 16:28

Confidence: High for a mostly cloudy day Friday with outbreaks of rain and then a largely fine day on Saturday and showers on Sunday. However confidence falls considerably from Monday with uncertainties over northward extent of a developing frontal wave, currently expected to bring some heavy rain to the southern UK.

Headline for Friday 15 Mar 2024: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain dying out. Colder later as winds turn northerly.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 15 Mar 2024

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Light rain	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
70%	90%	60%	60%	40%	40%	30%	10%

Forecast for Friday 15 Mar 2024

Weather: Cloudy through the early hours with outbreaks of rain, most persistent and heaviest across southern and western fells. Then a mostly cloudy day, with further outbreaks of rain and drizzle, these mainly light and tending to become patchier through the day, best chance of any brighter conditions expected over eastern fells. During the evening the cloud breaks with long clear spells developing.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Around 25% in east but generally close to zero. Chances improve in the evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 450-600m, but cloud more occasional at times above 750m over eastern fells, the cloud breaking to become occasional above 750m during the evening. Away from cloud, visibility good falling to several kilometres in rain.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
© Crown Copyright 2024. All Rights Reserved.

Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Friday 15 Mar 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	42/52 SW	40/49 SW	33/41 SW	27/34 SW	21/26 W	19/25 NW	24/31 N	22/27 N	14/18 N
600	32/44 SW	28/39 SW	23/32 SW	19/26 SW	15/21 W	16/22 NW	19/26 N	14/20 N	9/12 NW
300	12/32 SW	12/30 SW	10/25 SW	8/20 SW	7/16 W	8/17 NW	9/21 N	6/16 N	4/9 NW
Valley	12/31 SW	12/29 SW	10/24 SW	9/20 SW	8/17 W	10/20 NW	11/23 N	8/18 N	5/11 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	4/-3	4/-3	4/-3	4/-2	4/-2	3/-3	1/-6	-0/-7	-1/-7
600	6/-0	6/0	6/0	6/1	6/1	5/0	3/-3	2/-3	1/-3
300	7/4	7/4	7/4	7/5	7/5	7/4	5/2	4/1	3/2
Valley	9/6	8/6	8/6	8/6	8/6	8/6	7/4	6/4	5/3
Freezing Level*	1700m	1700m	1700m	1700m	1600m	1500m	1100m	900m	800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Gusts around 55mph over ridges and summits through the early hours. Significant chill effect, especially later despite easing winds.

Forecast for Saturday 16 Mar 2024

Weather: Dry with long clear spells overnight. Then a dry morning with good spells of sunshine. Cloud above the summits increases through the afternoon bringing outbreaks of occasionally heavy rain east through the evening.

Maximum wind: Light and variable winds at first becoming southeasterly 15mph by midday then increasing 25-30mph through the afternoon and evening, with gusts around 50mph over ridges and summits in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Close to 100% through much of the day falling to 25% in evening

Low cloud and visibility: Little or no cloud below the summits through much of the day but periods or persistent cloud above 600-750m, with patches below, spreading east through the evening. Away from cloud visibility very good falling to several kilometres in evening rain.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around zero Celsius at dawn rising to plus 9 or 10 Celsius by late afternoon
At 800m: Around zero Celsius through the morning, gradually rising to plus 4 Celsius in the afternoon.
Freezing level: Around 800m through the morning, gradually rising above the summits

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
© Crown Copyright 2024. All Rights Reserved.

Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 14 March 2024 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:15 Full report: The thaw continues, albeit at a slower pace simply because there's now little snow left to melt! Weather conditions were very similar to Wednesday with almost constant rain, strong winds, low cloud and a summit temperature of plus 5 degrees C around midday. As far as we are aware, all Lakeland paths are now free from unavoidable snow and ice. As of today, this includes the Helvellyn Edges where frequently the last remaining patch of unavoidable snow on any route in the Lakes is located. The little snow that now remains is mainly situated above 900m at the top of steep north and east facing aspects. As such, it represents no hazard to walkers. Owing to the lack of snow and ice, the main hazards encountered today were the same as yesterday namely poor visibility in the low cloud and driving rain, the strength of the wind and the damp, slippery nature of the ground underfoot especially when traversing wet rocks. Any unbridged stream and river crossings require care owing to swollen watercourses. Despite the above average temperatures this week, the summit windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) remains below freezing (minus 3 degrees C around midday). Thus full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment, including a torch, are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. As mentioned, visibility was poor today, down to 30m at times (feeling less with steamed up glasses!) so a map and compass together with the ability to use them and navigate competently when landmarks can't be seen is also essential. Temperature: plus 4.6 C, Maximum wind speed 34.5 mph, Wind chill: minus 2.8 C, Average wind speed: 29.4 mph

Issued at: 1628 on Thu 14 Mar 2024

© Crown Copyright 2024. All Rights Reserved.